



1001 North 23rd Street
Post Office Box 94094
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9094

(O) 225-342-3035
(F) 225-342-3743
www.laworks.net

John Bel Edwards, Governor
Ava Dejoie, Executive Director

Office of Public Affairs

Date: March 14, 2016
For Immediate Release
Editors: Deletes requirement to submit federal income tax forms.

Media Contact:
LWC Public Affairs (225) 342-3035

N E W S R E L E A S E

LWC taking applications for disaster unemployment assistance

BATON ROUGE -- The Louisiana Workforce Commission is accepting applications for disaster unemployment assistance (DUA) from individuals whose employment or self-employment was lost or interrupted as a result of flooding from March 8-March 13, 2016.

Assistance is being made available as a result of the major-disaster declaration issued by President Barack Obama and includes the parishes of Bossier, Claiborne, Grant, Morehouse, Ouachita, Richland and Webster. Other parishes may be included at a later date.

Individuals affected in these designated-disaster areas must file DUA applications by April 14, 2016. DUA is available to individuals who:

- Worked or were self-employed or were scheduled to begin work or self-employment.
- Can no longer work or perform services because of physical damage or destruction to the place of employment as a direct result of the disaster.
- Establish that the work or self-employment they no longer can perform was their principal source of income.
- Do not qualify for regular unemployment benefits from any state.
- Cannot perform work or self-employment because of an injury as a direct result of the disaster, or,
- Who became the breadwinner or major support of a household because of the death of the head of household.

Applications filed after April 14, 2016, will be considered untimely and DUA benefits may be denied, unless the individual provides good cause for filing after that date. Applicants must submit their Social Security number, check stubs and documentation to support the claim that they were working or self-employed when the disaster occurred. In some cases, additional documentation may be required. To receive DUA benefits, all required documentation must be submitted with 21 days from the date the DUA application is filed.

Disaster unemployment assistance is available from weeks of unemployment beginning March 13, 2016, and up to September 24, 2016, as long as the individual's unemployment continues to be a result of the disaster.

To file for disaster unemployment assistance, applicants should apply online at www.laworks.net or call the Benefits Analysis Team at 1-866-783-5567 Monday through Friday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Central time. Additional information is available at www.laworks.net. Personal assistance is available through local Business and Career Solutions Centers.

About the Louisiana Workforce Commission

The Louisiana Workforce Commission is an agency of state government that administers programs designed to enhance workforce growth and provide family-sustaining jobs for Louisiana residents. The commission monitors employment, administers unemployment compensation and tax funds, provides training resources for employers and employees and oversees worker compensation benefits. The agency also gathers and supplies information on the labor market and occupational sectors in Louisiana

###